



Governor's Award for Civic Engagement 2006

Request for Nominations

"Your commitment to service is what makes Montana a great place to live."

Governor Brian Schweitzer

Montana Commission on Community Service

P.O. Box 200801

Helena, MT 59620-0801

2006 Governor's Award for Civic Engagement

General Information

Purpose: To recognize organizations and individuals of all ages and backgrounds who, through their dedication and commitment to community service and volunteerism, have enhanced civic life in Montana and embodied the true spirit of civic engagement.

Background: The Montana Commission on Community Service established the Governor's Award for Civic Engagement to honor organizations and individuals for their efforts to engage their communities and achieve results that affect the way of life at the state or local level. The award is granted for **extraordinary endeavors**. It is not easily won. This award is destined to be **Montana's premier award for civic engagement**. It will represent the best in positive community change through service, volunteerism and community leadership.

Eligibility: Nominees may not be salaried for the services performed.

Individuals of all ages and backgrounds are eligible for nomination.

Nominees must be residents of the State of Montana. *(National Service members must have served in Montana)

Awards will be given, if merited, in each of the following categories:

- Youth (Age 25 and under)
- Adult (Age 25-59 years of age)
- Seniors (60+ years of age)
- National Service Member (AmeriCorps or *VISTA)
- Service Learning Project
- Organizations, or multiple individuals acting collectively

Selection: Nomination forms must be filled out completely and legibly to be considered. Two references will be required for each nomination. A selection committee will judge all nominations and select a winner in each age group. Nominations will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Personal commitment to cultivating an ethic of service,
- Level of civic engagement fostered in community or the state,
- Significance of legacy that remains in community or the state,
- Significance of impact or change in the community or the state,
- Perseverance through obstacles of all types (economic, social, physical, etc.)

Submission: An **original** copy of the completed nomination application must be received by the Montana Commission on Community Service by **October 31, 2006**. Faxes will not be accepted. Please mail to:

Montana Commission on Community Service
Attn: Governor's Award
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 200801
Helena, MT 59620-0801

Notification: Nominators of those chosen to receive awards will be notified by December 2006. The Montana Commission will recognize award winners during a special presentation ceremony in the Capitol Rotunda on January 17th.

Questions: Please direct all inquiries to Shannon Stober at the Montana Commission on Community Service at (406) 444-1391 or e-mail to sstober@mt.gov.

2006 Governor's Award for Civic Engagement Nomination Form

Civic Engagement refers to the active involvement of all citizens who contribute ideas, energy and action to improve communities. Without active citizen involvement through civic engagement, we cannot sustain the communities with the qualities we all cherish. Civic Engagement requires individual and collective actions designed to identify and address issues of public concern through both political and non-political processes.

NOMINEE

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip Code:

Daytime Phone:

Fax or E-mail:

CATEGORY: ☐ National Service Member ☐ Young Adult ☐ Adult
☐ Service Learning Project* ☐ Senior ☐ Organizations / Multiple Individuals

NOMINATOR:

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip Code:

Daytime Phone:

Fax or E-mail:

REFERENCES: To ensure complete knowledge of the nominee and his/her accomplishments, we request two references that are well acquainted with him/her. Those used as references should be familiar with the nomination, the nomination process and the data submitted.

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip Code:

Daytime Phone:

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip Code:

Daytime Phone:

*Service learning is defined as a teaching and learning strategy that integrates meaningful community service with instruction and reflection to enrich a valuable learning experience, teach civic responsibility, and strengthen communities.

Nomination Format:

Using additional sheets of paper, please respond with a narrative answer no longer than 200 words for each question.

- Describe the nominee's personal commitment to cultivating an ethic of service in his/her community or the state?
- How did the nominee increase the level of civic engagement in his/ her community or the state?
- What legacy remains in the community or the state from the efforts of the nominee?
- Describe the significance of impact or change in the community or the state as a direct result of the efforts of the nominee.
- Explain any obstacles that the nominee had to overcome to create the civic engagement efforts for which he/she is nominated.

NOMINATION NARRATIVE:

On a separate sheet of paper, please summarize the achievements and contributions of the nominee. Include biographical information and examples of the impact of the nominee's activity where appropriate. Responses should not exceed 250 words.